

# NEWS *from*



**Bill Postmus**  
Supervisor, First District

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Contact: Brad Mitzelfelt  
(909) 387-4830

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## **COUNTY KICKS OFF DESERT JUVENILE HALL PROJECT THURSDAY** *\$22-million Construction Contract Awarded Today*

SAN BERNARDINO -- With a groundbreaking ceremony set for the construction of the High Desert Detention and Assessment Center in Apple Valley on Thursday, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors kept the project on track today by awarding the main construction contract for the project.

Thursday's groundbreaking will be held at 9 a.m. at Dale Evans Parkway at Interstate 15 in Apple Valley.

The \$22-million construction contract was awarded by the Board of Supervisors today to Swinerton Builders of Newport Beach. Swinerton was the lowest responsive bidder on the project to build a 200-bed juvenile detention facility, an administration building including medical offices, an intake area and a security wall.

On May 22, 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved the project going out to bid and accepted a \$19,329,640 grant from the state Department of Corrections to help finance the project. On August 14, 2001, the Board awarded a design consultant contract to Patrick Sullivan Associates of Claremont. The consultant prepared construction documents for the project, which have been approved by the Board of Corrections.

On March 19, 2002, the Board approved a pre-qualification procedure for prospective

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bidders. In response to the Board-approved Request for Qualifications (RFQ), eight potential bidders submitted responses. Of the two responsive bids, Swinerton's was the lowest.

This project was approved by the Board of Supervisors in the amount of \$29,923,782 in the Fiscal Year 2001-02 Capital Improvement Program budget and carried over to FY 2002/03. Expenditures will be reimbursed by the Board of Corrections grant of \$19,329,640, in addition to \$10,594,142 from the County's General Fund. The project includes an eight-percent set-aside for contingencies.

"This project is long overdue, and it's great for the High Desert," said First District Supervisor Bill Postmus. "The High Desert Detention Center will allow for a considerable reduction in the amount of time our Sheriff's deputies spend on the freeways transporting juvenile offenders to San Bernardino. It will also relieve overcrowding in the juvenile hall population countywide, provide good local jobs, and open up a significant portion of northern Apple Valley to future beneficial growth."

The High Desert Juvenile Detention and Assessment Center is scheduled to be completed in 2004.